

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00250 270506Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13
TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 FEA-01 EB-08 COME-00 ACDA-07
/091 W

-----270512 064742 /11

R 261258Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2353
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0250

E.O. 11652: GDS
TABS: PFOR, QA, US
SUBJECT: BRIEFING OF QATARI FOREIGN MINISTER ON SECY'S
MIDDLE EAST TRIP

REF: DOHA 240

1. ON FEB 26 I BRIEFED QATARI FOREIGN MINISTER SHAYKH
SUHAYM BIN HAMAD AL THANI ON SECRETARY'S MID EAST TRIP AND
GULF/PENINSULA COM'S MEETING WITH SECY IN RIYADH ALONG LINES
OF REFTEL. SUHAYM CONCURRED WITH SECY'S GENERAL CONCLUSIONS
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RE DESIRE FOR PEACE SO COUNTRIES OF AREA CAN GET ON WITH
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND DIFFICULTIES FACING SETTLEMENT BE-
CAUSE OF WIDE DIVERGENCIES OF VIEW BETWEEN PARTIES, PARTIC-
ULARLY ON PALESTINIAN ASPECTS. SUHAYM EXPRESSED HOPE THAT
SECY HAD NOT BEEN DISCOURAGED BY TOUGH REALITIES OF SITUATION.
I ASSURED HIM THAT PRESIDENT AND SECY HAVE IDENTIFIED MID
EAST PROBLEM AS PRIORITY MATTER FOR USG AND ARE DETERMINED

THAT WE SHALL PLAY VIGOROUS ROLE IN MOVING PARTIES TOWARD SETTLEMENT.

2. SUHAYM WISHED US EVERY SUCCESS AND PLEDGED GOQ'S FULL COOPERATION. HE WENT ON AT SOME LENGTH ON HOW GOQ'S VITAL INTERESTS VERY MUCH INVOLVED IN SUCCESS OF PEACE EFFORT. SUHAYM STATED THAT IT SEEMED THAT EVERY MONTH THERE WAS A NEW REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM CONFRONTATION COUNTRIES WHICH DIVERTED RESOURCES FROM QATAR'S OWN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. HE OBSERVED THAT GOQ'S VITAL HOUSING AND SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS HAD GROUND TO A HALT BECAUSE OF EXTERNAL FINANCIAL LEVIES AND THAT THIS FELT BY POPULATION AT LARGE, WHICH BEGINNING TO GRUMBLE. SUHAYM ALSO NOTED THAT ASSISTANCE NEEDED NEARER TO HOME BY SUCH LESS FORTUNATE GULF STATES AS BAHRAIN. HE SAID THAT RETARDATION OF DEVELOPMENT CAUSED BY FINANCIAL DRAIN TO CONFRONTATION COUNTRIES WOULD EVENTUALLY THREATEN STABILITY OF ENTIRE GULF AREA UNLESS SETTLEMENT PERMITTED MORE CONSTRUCTIVE USE OF RESOURCES.

3. RE ENERGY, SUHAYM REITERATED HIS PERSONAL SUPPORT OF SAUDI AND UAE OIL PRICING POLICY, SINCE THIS DESIGNED AS POLITICAL ENCOURAGEMENT TO NEW US ADMINISTRATION TO CATALYZE MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT, AND AS AID TO EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WHICH FACING INTERNAL COMMUNIST THREAT. HE NOTED AGAIN HIS DISSENT FROM AMIR'S DECISION FOR GOQ TO GO ALONG WITH OPEC ELEVEN (DOHA 209).

4. ON BOYCOTT, SUHAYM DENIED ANY RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS MOTIVATION AND REMARKED THAT SETTLEMENT WOULD ELIMINATE THIS PROBLEM.

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5. ON ADMINISTRATION'S DETERMINATION TO REDUCE ARMS TRANSFERS, SUHAYM ASSERTED THAT ON THIS PROBLEM, AGAIN MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT WOULD REMOVE IT IN THIS AREA.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, BRIEFING MATERIALS, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DOHA00250
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770068-0033
Format: TEL
From: DOHA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977026/aaaaafav.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9597acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 DOHA 240
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3370492
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRIEFING OF QATARI FOREIGN MINISTER ON SECY'S MIDDLE EAST TRIP
TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, QA, US, (THANI, KHALIFA IBN HAMAD AL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9597acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009